Table 32

Median years to doctorate, by sex, citizenship status, ethnicity, race, and broad field of study: 2019

(Median years and number)

Time to degree and demographic characteristic	All f	ields	Life sciences ^a		Physical sciences and earth sciences		Mathematics and computer sciences		Psychology and social sciences		Engineering		Education		Humanities and arts		Otl	ner ^b
	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number
Years since bachelor's																		
All doctorate recipients ^c	8.7	53,126	8.3	12,307	6.9	6,342	7.8	4,057	9.4	8,605	7.4	9,799	14.8	4,433	11.0	4,771	11.4	2,812
Sex																		
Male	8.3	28,752	8.1	5,584	7.0	4,192	7.6	3,008	9.6	3,514	7.5	7,464	14.1	1,358	11.1	2,333	11.2	1,299
Female	9.2	24,373	8.3	6,723	6.8	2,150	7.9	1,049	9.3	5,091	7.1	2,335	15.0	3,075	11.0	2,437	11.6	1,513
Citizenship status																		
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	9.0	34,719	8.1	8,912	6.6	3,869	7.5	1,764	9.3	6,608	7.0	4,192	15.4	3,788	11.0	3,901	13.0	1,685
Temporary visa holder	8.3	17,805	8.5	3,292	7.5	2,415	7.8	2,253	9.6	1,868	7.8	5,525	12.0	591	11.1	788	10.0	1,073
Ethnicity and race (U.S. citizens and permanent residents)																		
Hispanic or Latino	9.0	2,819	8.0	766	6.4	269	7.3	103	9.4	625	7.0	304	14.2	315	11.3	328	13.4	109
Not Hispanic or Latino																		
American Indian or Alaska Native	11.4	116	9.0	27	8.7	8	D	D	11.3	30	6.0	9	D	D	D	D	D	D
Asian	8.5	3,382	8.4	1,031	6.9	360	8.0	247	9.3	436	7.3	714	13.3	204	12.1	201	11.2	189
Black or African American	12.0	2,438	10.0	528	8.0	86	11.3	68	11.3	574	8.0	175	15.9	598	D	D	D	D
White	8.8	23,998	8.0	6,086	6.5	2,926	7.4	1,226	9.3	4,515	6.8	2,767	15.8	2,462	11.0	2,965	12.7	1,051
More than one race	8.5	1,116	8.0	294	6.3	140	6.6	68	9.3	240	6.6	124	12.3	109	11.0	105	11.5	36

Table 32

Median years to doctorate, by sex, citizenship status, ethnicity, race, and broad field of study: 2019

(Median years and number)

Time to degree and demographic	All fields		Life sciences ^a		Physical sciences and earth sciences		Mathematics and computer sciences		Psychology and social sciences		Engineering		Education		Humanities and arts		Other ^b	
characteristic	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number
Other race or race not reported	10.0	355	9.0	84	6.4	31	D	D	10.3	77	7.3	45	D	D	11.8	42	16.4	22
Ethnicity not reported	10.0	495	10.0	96	7.0	49	8.0	29	10.8	111	7.5	54	16.3	42	10.4	78	12.0	36
Years since entering graduate school																		
All doctorate recipients ^d	7.5	51,241	6.9	12,000	6.3	6,172	6.9	3,932	8.0	8,161	6.8	9,528	11.9	4,248	9.5	4,548	9.3	2,652
Sex																		
Male	7.3	27,853	6.8	5,469	6.3	4,093	6.9	2,925	8.0	3,322	6.8	7,261	11.3	1,313	9.7	2,237	9.0	1,233
Female	7.8	23,387	7.0	6,531	6.0	2,079	7.0	1,007	7.9	4,839	6.3	2,267	12.3	2,935	9.3	2,310	9.8	1,419
Citizenship status																		
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	7.3	33,534	6.8	8,717	5.9	3,759	6.8	1,708	7.8	6,295	6.3	4,063	12.6	3,652	9.3	3,746	10.0	1,594
Temporary visa holder	7.7	17,284	7.7	3,218	6.9	2,366	7.0	2,184	8.8	1,793	7.0	5,377	9.4	556	9.9	766	8.8	1,024
Ethnicity and race (U.S. citizens and permanent residents)																		
Hispanic or Latino	7.5	2,694	6.8	740	5.8	259	6.8	97	8.0	578	6.3	289	11.8	308	9.4	316	10.0	107
Not Hispanic or Latino																		
American Indian or Alaska Native	9.3	105	8.4	24	8.8	7	D	D	9.0	28	5.7	8	14.8	23	10.4	8	D	D
Asian	7.2	3,301	7.0	1,018	6.3	354	7.0	242	7.7	422	6.7	690	10.8	199	10.5	196	9.0	180

Table 32

Median years to doctorate, by sex, citizenship status, ethnicity, race, and broad field of study: 2019

(Median years and number)

Time to degree and demographic	All fields		Life sciences ^a		Physical sciences and earth sciences		Mathematics and computer sciences		Psychology and social sciences		Engineering		Education		Humanities and arts		Other ^b	
characteristic	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number
Black or African American	9.8	2,381	8.3	526	6.3	84	9.1	67	9.4	567	6.8	172	12.8	578	9.9	170	13.2	217
White	7.3	23,483	6.4	6,007	5.9	2,871	6.8	1,206	7.5	4,372	6.0	2,718	12.9	2,393	9.3	2,894	9.8	1,022
More than one race	7.1	1,111	6.4	295	5.8	140	6.0	68	8.0	238	5.9	122	10.3	109	9.0	103	9.4	36
Other race or race not reported	8.6	302	7.3	70	6.0	29	D	D	9.5	61	6.6	38	12.3	28	9.7	37	D	D
Ethnicity not reported	8.5	157	7.5	37	6.8	15	6.8	7	8.3	29	6.4	26	16.9	14	10.5	22	9.7	7
Years since entering doctoral programe																		
All doctorate recipients ^f	5.8	49,887	5.5	11,747	5.6	6,027	5.7	3,824	6.0	7,914	5.3	9,267	5.7	4,133	6.8	4,407	5.1	2,568
Sex																		
Male	5.7	27,085	5.5	5,354	5.7	3,994	5.7	-	5.9	3,219	5.3		5.5	1,274	6.8	2,154	5.0	1,192
Female	5.8	22,801	5.6	6,393	5.3	2,033	5.5	979	6.0	4,695	5.1	2,214	5.8	2,859	6.8	2,252	5.3	1,376
Citizenship status																		
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	5.8	32,614	5.7	8,538	5.6	3,677	5.8	1,653	6.0	6,092	5.3	3,947	5.8	3,546	6.8	3,627	5.3	1,534
Temporary visa holder	5.3	16,865	5.3	3,145	5.6	2,303	5.3	2,134	5.8	1,750	5.0	5,236	5.3	547	6.3	747	5.0	1,003
Ethnicity and race (U.S. citizens and permanent residents)																		
Hispanic or Latino	5.9	2,616	5.8	725	5.3	254	5.9	95	6.3	559	5.7	280	5.8	300	6.8	304	5.7	99

(Median years and number)

Table 32

Median years to doctorate, by sex, citizenship status, ethnicity, race, and broad field of study: 2019

Time to degree and demographic characteristic	All fields		Life sciences ^a		Physical sciences and earth sciences		Mathematics and computer sciences		Psychology and social sciences		Engineering		Education		Humanities and arts		Ot	her ^b
	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number
Not Hispanic or Latino																		
American Indian or Alaska Native	6.5	101	6.0	23	6.0	7	D	D	7.0	27	5.7	8	7.0	21	6.8	8	D	D
Asian	5.8	3,204	5.8	994	5.8	348	5.8	230	6.0	410	5.7	663	6.0	196	7.3	190	5.3	173
Black or African American	5.9	2,252	5.8	503	5.3	82	6.3	64	6.0	533	5.8	164	5.8	541	6.7	162	5.9	203
White	5.8	22,938	5.6	5,907	5.6	2,811	5.8	1,168	6.0	4,246	5.3	2,655	5.7	2,345	6.8	2,812	5.3	994
More than one race	5.8	1,086	5.8	290	5.3	139	5.3	68	6.0	232	5.3	118	6.3	106	7.0	98	6.0	35
Other race or race not reported	6.0	275	5.8	63	5.8	23	D	D	6.8	57	5.3	36	6.3	24	6.8	34	D	D
Ethnicity not reported	5.8	142	5.7	33	5.9	13	5.8	7	6.2	28	4.8	23	5.0	13	5.8	19	4.7	6

D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

Source(s):

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Earned Doctorates.

^a Includes agricultural sciences and natural resources; biological and biomedical sciences; and health sciences.

^b Includes other non-science and engineering fields not shown separately.

^c Includes only cases with valid year of bachelor's award.

^d Includes only cases with valid year of entry into graduate school.

^e Years since entering doctoral program is based on master's degree program entry if the master's degree was at the doctoral institution in the same fine field of study or was a prerequisite to the doctorate; otherwise, it is based on doctoral program entry.

f Includes only cases with valid year of entry into master's program if master's degree was at the doctoral institution in the same fine field of study or was a prerequisite to the doctorate; otherwise, includes only cases with valid year of doctoral program entry.